

REMARKS

Claims 9 through 17 remain pending in the present application. Claims 9, 11, 12, 13, and 15-17 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

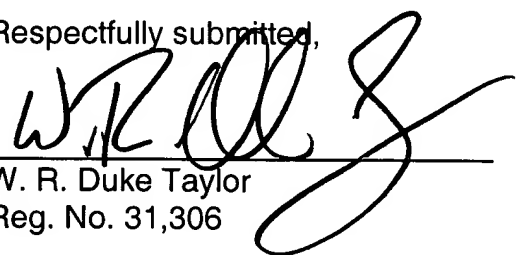
The undersigned attorney would like to thank Examiner Rachuba for the courtesies extended to him during the telephonic interview on December 1, 2004. During the interview, the §112 rejection was discussed. Also, Claims 9, 13 and 17 were discussed. The amendments to Claims 9, 13 and 17 point out that the sole plate is held in at least two positions and overcome the Examiner's §112 rejection.

Accordingly, in light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant would submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to pass the case to issue at her earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, she should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 2, 2004

By:


W. R. Duke Taylor
Reg. No. 31,306

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

WRDT/lkj
Enclosure